

day after service of the notice of levy, give the insuring organization written notification of the current status of all accounts listed on the notice of levy, and of the total payments received since service of the notice of levy. This notification will be given to the insuring organization whether or not there has been any change in the status of the accounts.

(c) *Satisfaction of levy.* The levy described in paragraph (b) of this section with respect to a life insurance or endowment contract shall be deemed to be satisfied if the insuring organization pays over to the officer who made the levy the amount which the person against whom the tax is assessed could have had advanced by the organization on the 90th day after service of the notice of levy on the organization. However, this amount is increased by the amount of any advance (including contractual interest thereon), generally called a policy loan, made to the person on or after the date the organization has actual notice or knowledge, within the meaning of 26 U.S.C. 6323(i)(1), of the existence of the tax lien with respect to which the levy is made. The insuring organization may, nevertheless, make an advance (including contractual interest thereon), generally called an automatic premium loan, made automatically to maintain the contract in force under an agreement entered into before the organization has such actual notice or knowledge. In any event, the amount paid to the appropriate ATF officer by the insuring organization is not to exceed the amount of the unpaid liability shown on the notification described in paragraph (b)(2) of this section. The amount determined in accordance with the provisions of this section, subject to the levy, shall be paid to the appropriate ATF officer by the insuring organization promptly after receipt of the notification described in paragraph (b)(2) of this section. The satisfaction of a levy with respect to a life insurance or endowment contract will not discharge the contract from the tax lien. However, see 26 U.S.C. 6323(b)(9)(C) and § 70.231(i) of this part concerning the liability of an insurance company after satisfaction of a levy with respect to a life insurance or endowment contract.

If the person against whom the tax is assessed so directs, the insuring organization, on a date before the 90th day after service of the notice of levy, may satisfy the levy by paying over an amount computed in accordance with the provisions of this subparagraph substituting such date for the 90th day. In the event of termination of the policy by the taxpayer or by the death of the insured on a date before the 90th day after service of the notice of levy, the amount to be paid over to the appropriate ATF officer by the insuring organization in satisfaction of the levy shall be an amount computed in accordance with the provisions of this subparagraph substituting the date of termination of the policy or the date of death for the 90th day.

(d) *Other enforcement proceedings.* The satisfaction of the levy described in paragraph (b) of this section by an insuring organization shall be without prejudice to any civil action for the enforcement of any Federal tax lien with respect to a life insurance or endowment contract. Thus, this levy procedure is not the exclusive means of subjecting the life insurance and endowment contracts of the person against whom a tax is assessed to the collection of the person's unpaid assessment. The United States may choose to foreclose the tax lien in any case where it is appropriate, as, for example, to reach the cash surrender value (as distinguished from cash loan value) of a life insurance or endowment contract.

(e) *Cross references.* (1) For provisions relating to priority of certain advances with respect to a life insurance or endowment contract after satisfaction of a levy pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 6332(b), see 26 U.S.C. 6323(b)(9) and § 70.231(i) of this part.

(2) For provisions relating to the issuance of a certificate of discharge of a life insurance or endowment contract subject to a tax lien, see 26 U.S.C. 6325(b) and § 70.150(b) of this part.

(26 U.S.C. 6332)

#### § 70.165 Production of books.

If a levy has been made or is about to be made on any property or rights to property, any person, having custody

or control of any books or records containing evidence or statements relating to the property or rights to property subject to levy, shall, upon demand of the appropriate ATF officer who has made or is about to make the levy, exhibit such books or records to such officer.

(26 U.S.C. 6333)

**§ 70.167 Authority to release levy and return property.**

(a) *Release of levy*—(1) *Authority.* An appropriate ATF officer may release the levy upon all or part of the property or rights to property levied upon as provided in paragraphs (a)(2), (3) and (4) of this section. A levy may be released under paragraph (a)(3) of this section only if the delinquent taxpayer complies with such of the conditions thereunder as an appropriate ATF officer may require and if the appropriate ATF officer determines that such action will facilitate the collection of the liability.

(2) *Conditions for mandatory release.* (i) An appropriate ATF officer shall release the levy as authorized under paragraph (a)(1) of this section, if any of the following conditions exist:

(A) The liability for which such levy was made is satisfied or becomes unenforceable by reason of lapse of time,

(B) Release of such levy will facilitate the collection of such liability,

(C) The taxpayer has entered into an agreement under 26 U.S.C. 6159 to satisfy such liability by means of installment payments, unless such agreement provides otherwise (an appropriate ATF officer is not required to release the levy in this case if release of such levy would jeopardize the secured creditor status of the United States).

(D) An appropriate ATF officer has determined that such levy is creating an economic hardship due to the financial condition of the taxpayer, or

(E) The fair market value of the property exceeds such liability and release of the levy on a part of such property could be made without hindering the collection of such liability.

(ii) In the case of any tangible personal property essential in carrying on the trade or business of the taxpayer, the appropriate ATF officer shall provide for an expedited determination

under paragraph (a)(2)(i) if levy on such tangible personal property would prevent the taxpayer from carrying on such trade or business.

(3) *Conditions for discretionary release.* An appropriate ATF officer may release the levy as authorized under paragraph (a)(1) of this section, if:

(i) *Escrow arrangement.* The delinquent taxpayer offers a satisfactory arrangement, which is accepted by an appropriate ATF officer, for placing property in escrow to secure the payment of the liability (including the expenses of levy) which is the basis of the levy.

(ii) *Bond.* The delinquent taxpayer delivers an acceptable bond to an appropriate ATF officer conditioned upon the payment of the liability (including the expenses of levy) which is the basis of the levy. Such bond shall be in the form provided in 26 U.S.C. 7101 and § 70.281 of this part.

(iii) *Payment of amount of U.S. interest in the property.* There is paid to an appropriate ATF officer an amount determined by ATF to be equal to the interest of the United States in the seized property or the part of the seized property to be released.

(iv) *Assignment of salaries and wages.* The delinquent taxpayer executes an agreement directing the taxpayer's employer to pay to an appropriate ATF officer amounts deducted from the employee's wages on a regular, continuing, or periodic basis, in such manner and in such amount as is agreed upon with an appropriate ATF officer, until the full amount of the liability is satisfied, and such agreement is accepted by the employer.

(v) *Extension of statute of limitations.* The delinquent taxpayer executes an agreement to extend the statute of limitations in accordance with 26 U.S.C. 6502(a)(2) and § 70.224 of this part.

(4) Release where value of interest of United States is insufficient to meet expenses of sale. An appropriate ATF officer may release the levy as authorized under paragraph (a)(1) of this section if that officer determines that the value of the interest of the United States in the seized property, or in the part of the seized property to be released is insufficient to cover the expenses of the sale of such property.